

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-55 (canceled)

Claim 56 (currently amended): A tibial augment system for a knee joint including a tibia, the system configured to articulate in conjunction with a condyle portion of a femoral component, the system comprising:

a tibial implant comprising ~~an articular component having an articular surface~~; a tibial plate ~~supporting said articular component~~; and a tibial post extending from said tibial plate; ~~wherein said articular surface of said articular component adapted to articulate against the condyle portion of the femoral component~~; and

a tibial augment comprising an annular body, said annular body defining an interior wall and an exterior wall, said exterior wall of said tibial augment sized to fit within a cortex of the tibia and having an anterior/posterior dimension, and a medial/lateral dimension, and a height, said anterior/posterior dimension being no less than 30 mm and no more than 40 mm, said medial/lateral dimension being no less than 40 mm and no more than 80 mm, said height being equal to about 15 mm, said interior wall of said tibial augment defining a passageway sized to accept said tibial post therethrough, said tibial augment having a proximal face with a proximal opening, said proximal opening providing access to said passageway, said tibial augment terminating distally at a distal face with a distal opening, said distal opening providing access to said passageway, whereby, with said tibial post positioned through said proximal opening of said tibial augment into said passageway and extending distally through said distal opening of said tibial augment, said tibial augment is positioned about said tibial post and said tibial post extends from said tibial augment.

Claim 57 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment comprises tantalum porous material.

Claim 58 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having a medial-lateral width greater than a medial-lateral width of said distal end.

Claim 59 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having an anterior-posterior width greater than an anterior-posterior width of said distal end.

Claim 60 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment tapering from said proximal end to said distal end.

Claim 61 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said interior wall of said tibial augment includes an anterior surface having defining a recess extending from a proximal end to a distal end of said annular body.

Claim 62 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment defining a medial height between said proximal end and said distal end at a medial most point of said tibial augment, said tibial augment defining a lateral height between said proximal end and said distal end at a lateral most point of said tibial augment, said distal end including a stepped surface in which said medial height is nonequal to said lateral height.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said tibial augment is medially-laterally symmetric.

Claim 64 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said exterior wall of said tibial augment defines a substantially planar posterior surface.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said exterior wall of said tibial augment defines a curved anterior surface, a curved medial surface, and a curved lateral surface.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said annular body of said tibial augment defines a substantially constant thickness between said interior wall and said exterior wall.

Claim 67 (cancelled)

Claim 68 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 56, wherein said proximal face of said tibial augment abuts a substantially distal face of said tibial plate.

Claim 69 (currently amended): A tibial augment system for a knee joint including a tibia, the system comprising:

- a tibial plate;

- a tibial post configured to extend from said tibial plate; and

- a tibial augment comprising an annular body, said annular body defining an interior wall and an exterior wall, said exterior wall of said tibial augment sized to fit within a cortex of the tibia and having an anterior/posterior dimension and a medial/lateral dimension, said anterior/posterior dimension being no less than 30 mm and no more than 40 mm, said medial/lateral dimension being no less than 40 mm and no more than 80 mm, said interior wall of said tibial augment defining a passageway sized to accept said tibial post therethrough, said tibial augment having an anterior face with a posterior opening, said posterior opening

providing access to said passageway, said tibial augment having a distal face with a distal opening, said distal opening providing access to said passageway, whereby, with said tibial post positioned through said posterior opening of said tibial augment into said passageway and extending distally through said distal opening of said tibial augment, said tibial augment is positioned about said tibial post and said tibial post extends from said tibial augment, said tibial augment having a height extending between said proximal face and said distal face, at least a portion of said exterior wall having a distal taper along at least a portion of a height between said proximal face and said distal face, said distal taper being between about 8 degrees and about 30 degrees.

Claim 70 (cancelled)

Claim 71 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said proximal face has a medial-lateral width greater than a medial-lateral width of said distal face.

Claim 72 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said proximal face has an anterior-posterior width greater than an anterior-posterior width of said distal face.

Claim 73 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said interior wall includes an anterior surface ~~having~~ defining a recess extending from said proximal face to said distal face of said annular body.

Claim 74 (previously presented): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said tibial augment is medially-laterally symmetric.

Claim 75 (currently amended): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, further comprising a plurality of said tibial augments, wherein said height of each of said plurality of said tibial

~~augment augments is different defining a unique height between a proximal end and a distal end of said annular body.~~

Claim 76 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said distal taper of said tibial augment is about 19 degrees.

Claim 77 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said distal taper of said tibial augment is less than about 17 degrees.

Claim 78 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said distal taper of said tibial augment is about 12 degrees.

Claim 79 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said tibial augment comprises tantalum porous material.

Claim 80 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said tibial augment defines a medial height between said proximal face and said distal face at a medial most point of said tibial augment, said tibial augment defining a lateral height between said proximal face and said distal face at a lateral most point of said tibial augment, said distal face including a stepped surface in which said medial height is nonequal to said lateral height.

Claim 81 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said exterior wall defines a curved anterior surface, a curved medial surface, and a curved lateral surface.

Claim 82 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said annular body defines a substantially constant thickness between said interior wall and said exterior wall.

Claim 83 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 69, wherein said proximal face of said tibial augment abuts a substantially distal face of said tibial plate.

Claim 84 (new): A tibial augment system for a knee joint including a tibia, the system configured to articulate in conjunction with a condyle portion of a femoral component, the system comprising:

a tibial implant comprising a tibial plate and a tibial post extending from said tibial plate;  
and

a tibial augment comprising an annular body, said annular body defining an interior wall and an exterior wall, said exterior wall of said tibial augment sized to fit within a cortex of the tibia and having an anterior/posterior dimension and a medial/lateral dimension, said anterior/posterior dimension being no less than 30 mm and no more than 40 mm, said medial/lateral dimension being no less than 40 mm and no more than 80 mm, said interior wall of said tibial augment defining a passageway sized to accept said tibial post therethrough, said tibial augment having a proximal face with a proximal opening, said proximal opening providing access to said passageway, said tibial augment terminating distally at a distal face with a distal opening, said distal opening providing access to said passageway, whereby, with said tibial post positioned through said proximal opening of said tibial augment into said passageway and extending distally through said distal opening of said tibial augment, said tibial augment is positioned about said tibial post and said tibial post extends from said tibial augment, said tibial augment defining a medial height between said proximal face and said distal face at a medial most point of said tibial augment, said tibial augment defining a lateral height between said proximal face and said distal face at a lateral most point of said tibial augment, one of said medial height and said lateral height being at least 15 mm and said anterior height being nonequal to said lateral height, whereby said distal face defines a stepped surface.

Claim 85 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said tibial augment comprises tantalum porous material.

Claim 86 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having a medial-lateral width greater than a medial-lateral width of said distal end.

Claim 87 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having an anterior-posterior width greater than an anterior-posterior width of said distal end.

Claim 88 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment tapering from said proximal end to said distal end.

Claim 89 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said interior wall includes an anterior surface defining a recess extending from a proximal end to a distal end of said annular body.

Claim 90 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said tibial augment is medially-laterally symmetric.

Claim 91 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said exterior wall defines a substantially planar posterior surface.

Claim 92 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said exterior wall defines a curved anterior surface, a curved medial surface, and a curved lateral surface.

Claim 93 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said annular body defines a substantially constant thickness between said interior wall and said exterior wall.

Claim 94 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 84, wherein said proximal face of said tibial augment abuts a substantially distal face of said tibial plate.

Claim 95 (new): A tibial augment system for a knee joint including a tibia, the system configured to articulate in conjunction with a condyle portion of a femoral component, the system comprising:

a tibial implant comprising a tibial plate and a tibial post extending from said tibial plate;  
and

a tibial augment comprising an annular body, said annular body defining an interior wall and an exterior wall, said exterior wall of said tibial augment sized to fit within a cortex of the tibia and having an anterior/posterior dimension, a medial/lateral dimension, and a height, said anterior/posterior dimension being no less than 30 mm and no more than 40 mm, said medial/lateral dimension being no less than 40 mm and no more than 80 mm, said height being equal to about 30 mm, said interior wall of said tibial augment defining a passageway sized to accept said tibial post therethrough, said tibial augment having a proximal face with a proximal opening, said proximal opening providing access to said passageway, said tibial augment terminating distally at a distal face with a distal opening, said distal opening providing access to said passageway, whereby, with said tibial post positioned through said proximal opening of said tibial augment into said passageway and extending distally through said distal opening of said tibial augment, said tibial augment is positioned about said tibial post and said tibial post extends from said tibial augment.

Claim 96 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said tibial augment comprises tantalum porous material.



Claim 97 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having a medial-lateral width greater than a medial-lateral width of said distal end.

Claim 98 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end having an anterior-posterior width greater than an anterior-posterior width of said distal end.

Claim 99 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment tapering from said proximal end to said distal end.

Claim 100 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said interior wall of said tibial augment includes an anterior surface defining a recess extending from a proximal end to a distal end of said annular body.

Claim 101 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said tibial augment defines a proximal end and a distal end, said tibial augment defining a medial height between said proximal end and said distal end at a medial most point of said tibial augment, said tibial augment defining a lateral height between said proximal end and said distal end at a lateral most point of said tibial augment, said distal end including a stepped surface in which said medial height is nonequal to said lateral height.

Claim 102 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said tibial augment is medially-laterally symmetric.

Claim 103 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said exterior wall of said tibial augment defines a substantially planar posterior surface.

Claim 104 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said exterior wall of said tibial augment defines a curved anterior surface, a curved medial surface, and a curved lateral surface.

Claim 105 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said annular body of said tibial augment defines a substantially constant thickness between said interior wall and said exterior wall.

Claim 106 (new): The tibial augment system of Claim 95, wherein said proximal face of said tibial augment abuts a substantially distal face of said tibial plate.